

EVALUATION CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION — PART 1

(Repeal of the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Read Instructions. Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received. (P. 94-455) Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side of a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1 NAME OF PROPERTY

Address of property Street 800 Park Avenue
 City Baltimore County _____ State Maryland Zip Code 21202
 Name of historic district in which property is located Baltimore City Historic District, 1964

2 DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

(See instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

3 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(use reverse side if necessary)

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

Date of construction (if known) c. 1835 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known) mid 20th cent.

4 HOME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER

Name Summers and Sommers, c/o Milton Sommers
 Street 824 Park Avenue
 City Baltimore State Maryland Zip Code 21202
 Telephone Number (during day) Area Code (301) 728-1400

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature

Prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.
14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Date

For Office Use Only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☐ appears ☒ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☒ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60) and ☐ appears ☒ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

3-11-82

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and is subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

It is hereby certified a historic structure.

It does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

By

Keeper of the National Register

Date

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION - PART I

Page 2

Name/address of Property: 822 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Name address of Owner: Sommers and Sommers, 824 Park Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202

Telephone: (301) 728-1400

Prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.

14 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone: (301) 837-3691

DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

822 Park Avenue exemplifies the simple yet elegant early houses still existing in the Mount Vernon Historic District. Buildings such as it blend with one another to create the significant architectural environment of the district. This building is a Greek Revival double house built of masonry with a running bond brick facade, a gable roof, and a high basement. The house is three bays wide and three stories high. There is a basement entrance in the south bay. The basement level is faced with marble, and contains a one by one wood casement window in the central bay. The door appears to be original, consisting of paneled wood, a single light, and a small iron grill. A marble belt course divides the marble base from the brick facade. Marble steps with wrought iron railings (unoriginal) lead to the entrance in the north bay. The door frame has a plain wood surround and an elaborate wood entablature containing two large modillions, smaller dentils, and a projecting cornice. The original door has been modified: it consists of a large pane of glass in the upper half and four smaller panes of glass in the lower half.

The fenestration is all one over one double hung wood sash windows with marble sills and flat arches. The dimensions become progressively shorter at each upper story. The first floor windows also have simple wrought iron railings in front of them. The second and third floor windows have white aluminum one over one storm windows. At the third story, the lintels are actually within the wood frieze of the wood cornice. The simple box cornice contains dentils as well. There is an interior end chimney in the south wall.

The north and south walls of 822 are attached, to 824 and 820, and hence are unobservable. The west facade has its southernmost bay and third story exposed, and consists of painted common bond brick. The windows are two over two and one over one double hung wood sash windows. An iron fire escape extends down the bay.

There is a two bay wide, two story high, six bay long back building of partially painted common bond brick. This structure has a shed roof and a brick corbelled cornice. There is an oriel window in the second bay from the east end. All windows are wood double hung windows, with a variety of lights, and most have aluminum storm windows. The first floor windows have iron grills. The back building has two one story additions: one is two bays long and one is one bay long, both with shed roofs. The two bay extension is painted common bond brick with two double hung six over six wood windows with flat arches and subsills. The one bay extension is built of painted cinder block, with a shed roof. There is a six over six wood window with a wood sill on the addition's west wall and an aluminum door with a plain wood surround on the south wall.

The interior still retains its original floor plan of rooms organized in a line parallel to a circulation axis, but the rooms have been converted into apartments with a variety of surface finishes applied during recent years. The vestibule has stone parquetry and the doors are glass and wood panels. The hallway itself exhibits lincrusta wainscoting, and its ceiling has plaster decoration creating a paneled effect. The stairs are winders with a very unusual balustrade with carved wood panels linking each baluster. The newel post is old.

Name/address of Property: 822 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Apartments contain much of the original molding: architrave surrounds on openings - some with reeding and bullseye blocks - baseboards, wood paneled doors, and wood floors. Some simple wood mantels remain as well.

The conversion of this structure into an apartment house is typical of the area which now consists mainly of professional offices and apartments. In general, the building still retains its original character in its materials, scale, plan, proportion, and details. As a result, the building augments the special environment of the Mount Vernon Historic District.

name/address of Property: 822 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

name/address of Owner: Somers and Somers, 824 Park Avenue

B-3791

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Telephone: (301) 728-1400

prepared by: Barbara Hoff, Dalsemer, Catzen and Associates, Inc.

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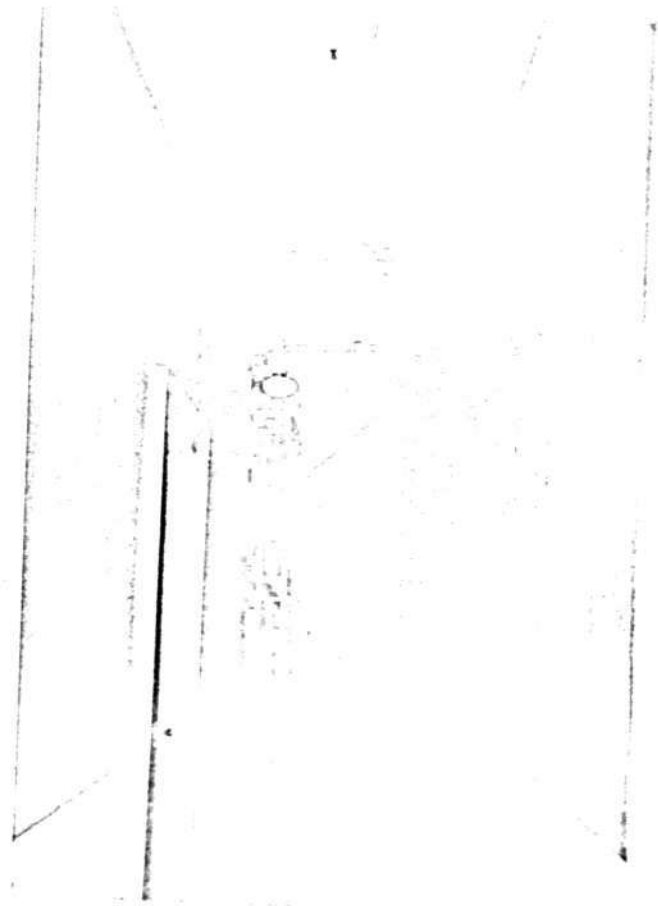
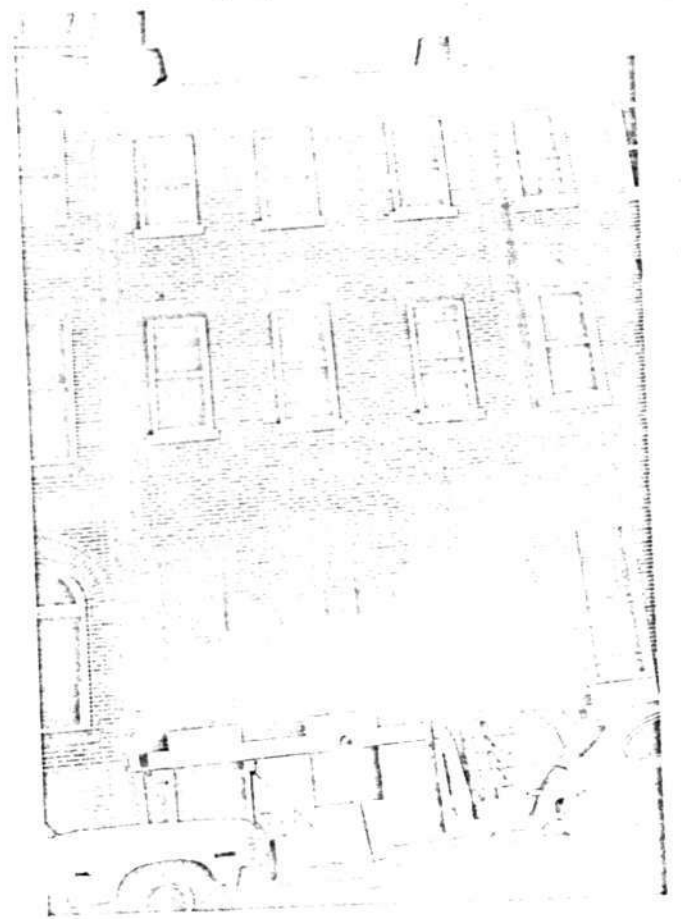
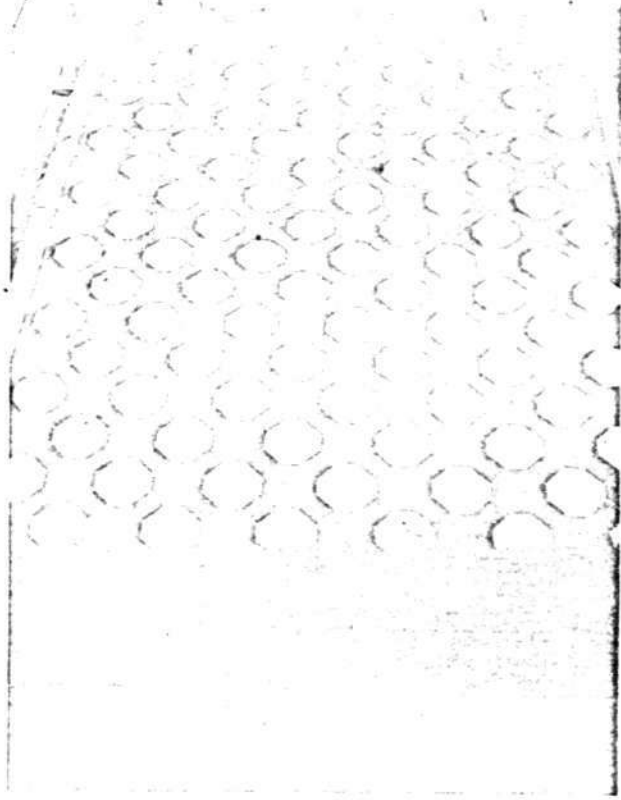
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of 822 Park Avenue lies in its architectural contribution to the environment of the Mount Vernon Historic District.

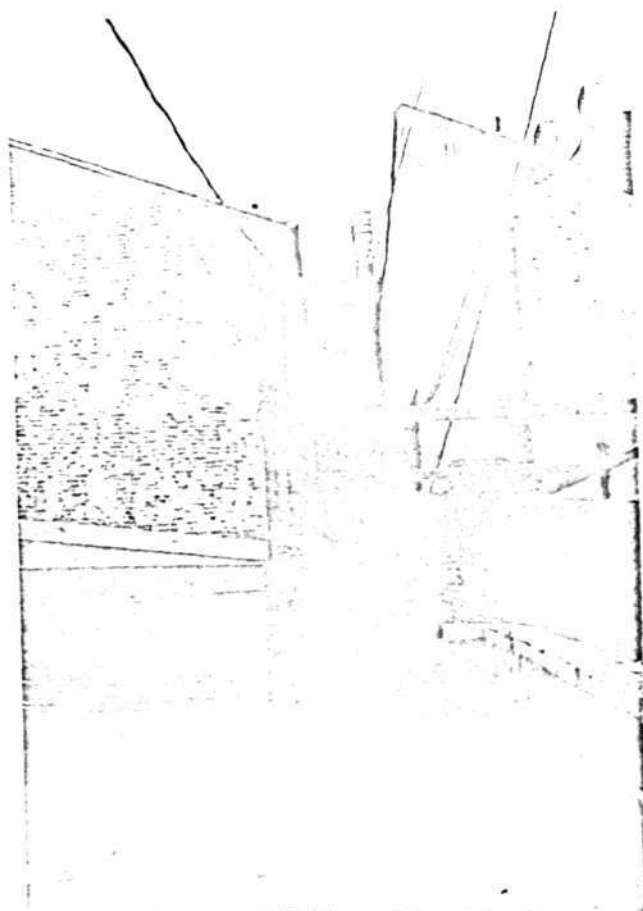
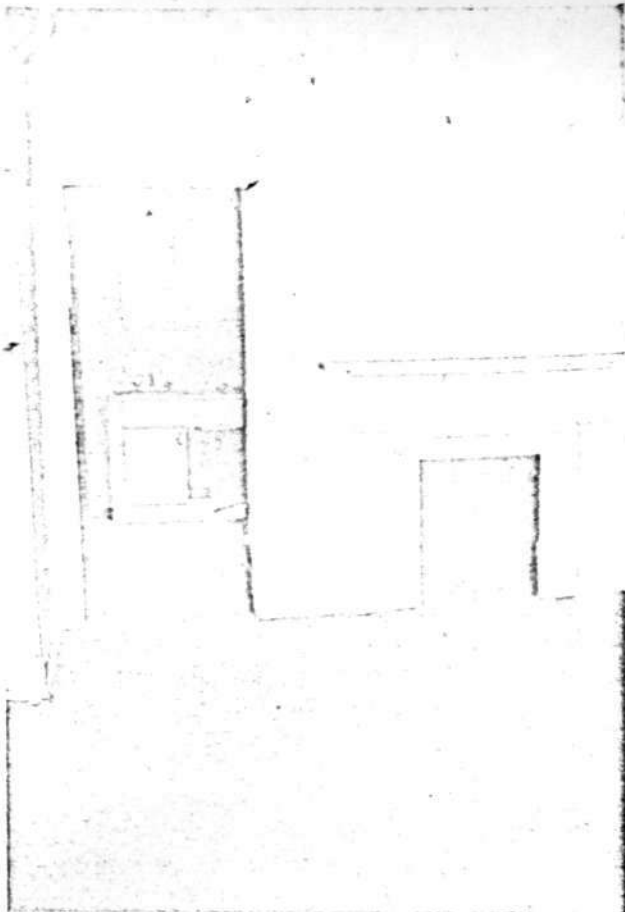
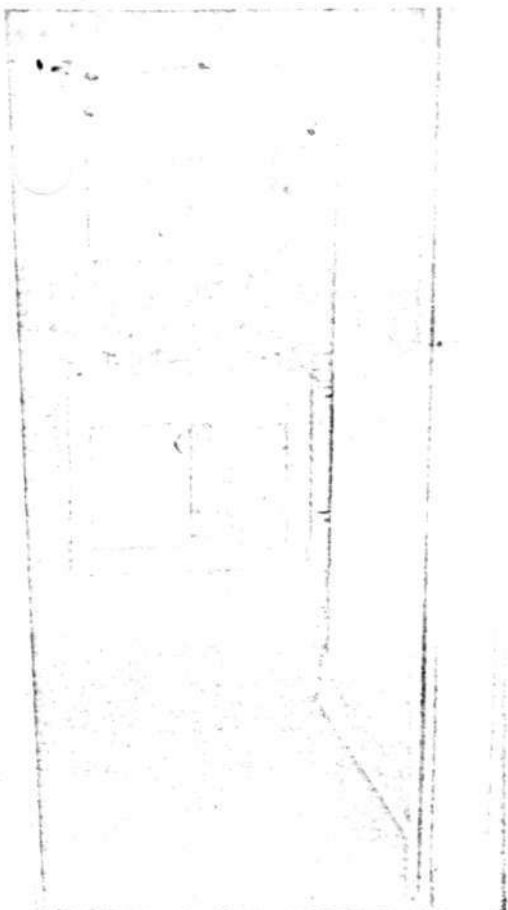
The Mount Vernon Historic District is both a Baltimore City District and, in part, a National Register Historic Landmark District. Mount Vernon was the first Historic District in Baltimore City, designated in 1964 and expanded five times to the current boundaries, which have been certified by the Department of the Interior for purposes of the Historic Preservation Tax Incentives. The ordinance creating the Mount Vernon Historic District also established the Baltimore City Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation to oversee all changes within the District and to recommend other areas and buildings in the City for historic designation. The Historic District and the Commission were outgrowths of the Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Plan, one of the City's earliest efforts to incorporate preservation and renovation of existing structures with new development. The current Historic District now encompasses two Urban Renewal Areas: Mount Vernon and Mt. Vernon-Belvedere.

The Mount Vernon Historic District grew from the early 19th century through the early 20th century and retains structures--residential, commercial, and religious--from that time. The area was Baltimore's most fashionable neighborhood and as such includes some of the finest architecture in the City, built for wealthy residents, congregations, and institutions, and designed by architects of local and national renown. The greater portion of the district was once the estate of John Eager Howard, revolutionary war patriot and statesman. His mansion, Belvidere, was located at what is now the 1000 block of North Calvert Street. The centerpiece of the district is the Washington Monument and Mount Vernon Place. The monument is the first formal monument erected to commemorate George Washington and is one of the finest examples of monumental architecture in the country. It was erected from 1815 to 1829 and designed by Robert Mills, one of the first American born and trained architects in the country. The development of the squares known as Mount Vernon Place and Washington Place, dates from the 1830's, when the land was subdivided by Howard's heirs, who then built some of the first houses. Prior to the construction of the monument and the development of the squares, brick working class houses were built on Tyson Street, Read Street and North Howard Street, the earliest dating from 1810. These buildings still exist, some are residences and others have been converted to antique shops. The houses on Hamilton Street date from 1820 and were designed by Robert Cary Long Sr. the architect of the Peale Museum and Davidge Hall.

The area which is now the Historic District continued to develop. Baltimore's prominent and wealthy residents moved north to the rural area because the land and the harbor was rapidly becoming industrialized and because the City was flooded with immigrants, who flocked to Baltimore to work in the newly established industries. Construction continued to take place in the 1880's and 1890's after the Howard estate had been sold. By the early 20th century, Mount Royal Avenue and parts of Howard Street had been developed, completing the construction in the district.



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GIS data Courtesy of
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS

